GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1098
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
FDI IN TELECOM SECTOR
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create a secure network for defence and official requirement while allowing the FDI hike in communications sector as reported in the Financial Express dated July 28, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government has constituted a High Level Group of Ministers to examine Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Telecommunications Sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which a final decision on investment in Telecom Sector is likely to be taken; and

(f) the extent to which the issue of external and internal security will be addressed by the said Committee?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir. A dedicated and secured network is proposed for defence and security related requirement.

(b) The network is for inter-department classified communication. The architecture of the network shall be modular and primarily for voice communication.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise in view of (c) above.